Murder will out:

Or, A Clear and Full

DISCOVERY

THAT THE

EARL OF ESSEX

Did not Feloniously Murder Himself;

BUT WAS

Barbarously Murthered

By OTHERS:

Both by Undeniable Circumstances, and Positive Proofs.

VVritten by *Henry Danvers* Esq; in the Year 1684. and now Published for the general Information of all Protestants.

Numb 35. 30 31, 33. *You shall take no Satisfaction for the Life of a Murderer which is Guilty of Death. Whoso Killeth any Person, the Murderer shall be put to Death. So shall you not pollute the Land, for Blood it defileth the Land, and the Land cannot be cleansed of the Blood that is shed therein, but by the Blood of him that shed it.*

Judg. 19. 30. *There was no such deed done nor seen unto this day*, &c

---

LONDON: Printed for *E. R.* and *J. R.* 1689.

BRITISH MUSEUM

TO THE

READER.

READER,

THOU hast here a discovery of one of the most Inhumane and Barbarous Murders, that any Age or Story can Parallel, especially if you consider the Person who, the Place where, the manner how he was Murdered, and the Consequences of them all.

1. The Person, it was the Earl of Essex; one of the Greatest Men in the Three Nations; the Son of the great Cavell, who laid down his Life for King Charles the First, and who himself had sustained so many Honourable and great Offices and Employments in these Nations, filling up no less then a Vice King-Ship for many years in the Neighbour Nation; and as he was Great in Eminent Loyalty, Excellent Qualifications, Large Patrimony, and Honourable Allies, so no less a sincere lover of his King and Country, and a Zealous Asserter of the Protestant Religion and Interest, against the Cursed Machinations of the Popish Party, which was therefore become his Crime, and rendred him so obnoxious.

2. The Place where he was Butchered, which was no other then in His Majesties Royal Prison and Palace, where (by design as it appears) he was brought, the better to fall a Sacrifice to his Enemies. Being first lodged in the Lieutenants House, then removed to his Slaughter-House Capt. Hawlys, (and there kill'd the day after.) Where being now the Kings Prisoner, and out of his own defence, and for whom the King and Kingdom were respondent, as Sir Fran. Bacon observes in Sir Tho. Overberyes Case, in the E. of Somersets Tryal, was a thing that greatly aggravated the Fact, for certainly, saith he, Sir Tho. O. was the first Man that was Murdered in the Tower of London, save the Murder of the Two young Princes, by the appointment of Richard the Third; this being it seems the second, with this further aggravation, That it was done at the very instant the K. himself was there in Person.

3. The manner how, viz. The Popish Conspirators (his Mortal

360

Enemies) having thus gotten him within their reach, do by hired Cut-Throat Villains and Traytors, most Barbarously and Treacherously Surprise, Assault, and Bloodily Assassinate this great Worthy in his own Chamber, cutting his Throat, almost to the cutting off his Neck, and afterwards by other Ruffians (and that against the K. express Command) inhumanely dragg, shamefully stript him, and basely expose his Naked Body to publick view. And as tho this was not sufficient to satiate their Malice, and Blood-thirstiness, thus to Murder his Person, they proceed (to the out-doing of Cain *himself) to Murder his reputation, by charging their Horrid Guilt upon himself; making him the Fellonious Self-Murderer: And persuing to the utmost Revenge, Slaughter, and Cruelty, any that should dare to speak the Truth, or contradict the same.*

4. *And as for the dismal Consequences, (some whereof have direfully appeared) which being impossible to express, is left to every ones Consideration.*

But he who makes Inquisition for Blood, who sees in Secret, and brings to light the hidden Works of Darkness, hath by his Providence greatly detected the same, both as to Persons and things; some Account whereof you have, for your Satisfaction, in the following compendious Collections.

Murder

Murder will out:

Or, A Clear and Full

DISCOVERY

That the EARL of

ESSEX

Did not Feloniously Murder Himself;

But was

Barbarously Murthered

By OTHERS, &c.

The Proofs both Circumstantial and Positive, that the Earl of Essex did not Feloniously Murder Himself, but was Barbarously Murdered by others.

I. THat he did not Murder Himself you have Evinced.

1. *From the Improbabilities that he should do it.* 2. *From the Impossibilities that he could SO do it.*

II. *That he was Murdered by others, you have made good,*

1. *By Undeniable Circumstances.*
2. *By Positive Proofs Offered.*

1. That the E. of *E.* did not Murder himself as the Inquest declares: Appears,

1, *From the Improbabilities that he should so do.*

1. Because of that excellent Sedate and well-composed Natural temper he was well known to be of, and free from such Melancholy and Frensical Fits, which might encline and expose him to such a Mischief, whatever maliciously and falsly had been said to the contrary.

2. Because of that grace and fear of God, he was so eminently endowed with, which would secure him from such Impiety.

3. Because of that abhorrency by Principle which he was well known to have of such unnatural practises (whereof he could not speak without great emotion of Spirit) whatever the better to colour the Murder, and fix it upon him, had been most villanously reported, and spread abroad to the contrary.

4. Because of the careful Provision he made for his own preservation, after he came into the *Tower* fearing the worst. 1. By sending for his own Silver Vessel to dress his Meat in by his own People, 2 By that store of all sorts of Wine he had ordered to be laid in for his own drinking, 3. By the direction he had given to his Servant, to take Notes of my Lord *Russel*'s Tryal, that very day for his own use; all ample indications he designed self-preservation, not self-destruction.

5. Because as his Conscience was clear from any Treasonable Guilt, (whatever to the contrary has been most wickedly suggested) so was he free from either legal Witnesses or Conviction, there being no Bill of Indictment found against him, as against others the day before, which might sufficiently secure him from needless fears, or any such desperate course, tho had his zeal and affection to his King, Country and Religion, (whom he might apprehend to have been in danger) transported him to any irregularity, his Fathers, as well as his own extraordinary merits from the Crown, might well be supposed (from so grateful and compassionate a Prince) would plead his Pardon, and free him from such Desperation.

6. Because of that intire Love and Friendship he bore to his most dear friend, the Lord *R.* which both in Honour and Conscience, would forbid and

and deterr from ſuch an Action, which muſt ſo neceſſarily tend to the certain ruine and deſtruction of his beſt Friend, and which fell out accordingly from the ſiniſter conſtruction they made thereof.

7. Becauſe of the previous notice given thereof in diverſe places, which to be ſure he would never have done, had he deſigned any ſuch thing.

2. *From the Impoſſibilities that he could ſo do as the Inqueſt declares.*

1. Becauſe it was impoſſible that he at one cut (as the Verdict ſaith) could cut 4 Inches in depth, and 8 in length, becauſe none can manage his hand to guide a Razor ſo to do at once, *viz.* From the leſt-ſide of the Neck-bone, to the right.

2. Becauſe it is impoſſible that with that French Razor, which was but 4 Inches and a half long, and without a Tongue (neceſſitating to take 2 Inches and a half at leaſt in his Hand) that he could with 2 Inches of ſuch an Inſtrument cut 4 or 5 Inches in depth and 8 or 9 in length.

3 Becauſe it is impoſſible in Nature, that when he had cut the left Jugular and Wind-pipe to the Neck-bone (which let out ſo much of the Blood and Vitals, that he could have either life or ſtrength, to proceed to cut the other alſo, as all skilful Chyrurgeons and Anatomiſts can demonſtrate.

4. Becauſe it was utterly impoſſible, that after he had lockt himſelf into the Cloſet, he could ſo cut his Throat as it was, and then open the Cloſet door, and fling the Bloody Razor out of the Chamber Window, at ſuch a diſtance from the Cloſet, and then get the Razor up again, and keep it in his hand (as ſome) or fling it by him (as others) and all this after he was Dead, for he inſtantly dyed ſaith the Inqueſt, and none but himſelf in the Room ſay their Witneſſes, therefore it was impoſſible he could with that Razor ſo Murder himſelf. And that the Bloody Razor was ſlung out of the Chamber Window, is made good by no leſs then ten Witneſſes.

Thus have you ſome Grounds and Reaſons (from the improbability and impoſſibility of the thing) to clear his Innocency from the Horrid Fact, ſo impudently charged upon him, and conſequently the guilt of others and which may be ſufficient to all wiſe Men, to detect the Murder, and inforce a review, if no other evidence could be produced: tenfold leſs, has done it, in other Caſes, it being ſo difficult many times to get light, and trace ſuch Secret, hidden works of darkneſs, as Sir, *Fran. Bacon* elegantly in Sir *Tho. Ov.* caſe, tells us, *That wiſe men muſt take upon them in theſe Secret Caſes*, Solomons Spirit, *that when there could be no Witneſſes, collected the Act by the affection, viz.* When he uſed the Stratagem about dividing the Child, but this you'll find is not our caſe, providence having given us a larger proviſion as you will further hear.

Secondly, *That he was Barbarouſly Murdered by others appears.* 1. *By the unde-*

undeniable Circumstances, arising 1. From the previous Reports. 2. From the corrupt and partial proceedings of the Coroner and his Inquest. 3. From the Conspirators Villanous ends. And 4. From the Wicked Methods used to stifle it.

1. *By the undeniable Circumstances, arising*

1. *From the many previous Reports which they had spread of his Self-Murder* (a method the Papists have heretofore taken, but the Policy thereof never yet understood) *viz.* When they stabb'd *H.* the IV. of *France*, Burnt *London*, Assassinated Sir *E. B. G.* and Murdered *Hawly* the Warder) of which diverse undeniable proofs have been and are ready to be produced of such reports, not only in *London*, but 50, 60, 80, 90, 100 Miles off; in some places a day, in some two days, in others (at a great distance) the very day he was Murdered; and as most Remarkable (as God would have it) all agreeing in the very manner thereof, *viz.* Cutting his Throat in the *Tower*. At *Andover* 60 Miles off, they had the report of his Cutting his Throat in the *Tower* the 11th of *July*, which was the first day of his Imprisonment there (for by reason of his late Commitment the Night before, he lay at the *French* Lord *Feversham's* in *White-Hall*) which sufficiently discovers what they designed before-hand, for if this Report came from *London*, it must be before he was a Prisoner, at least in the *Tower*, and two days before the thing was done.

2. *From the irregular, corrupt partial and unjust Proceedings of the Coroner and his Inquest.*

1. That one *Farnham*, said to be a Deputy Coroner, which the Law knows nothing of; and to be be sure a Legal Coroner he was not, Sir *Tho. Stringer* the Steward of the *Tower* being the proper Officer, and accountable for that great trust, but this is the Tool who must be brought forth to do the Jobb

2. That none of the Relations were summoned to attend the Inquest, which by known usage ought to have been.

3. That contrary to the known Custome and Usage, not only of our own, but other Nations, as well as the Kings special and express Command, the Body was removed from the place and posture it was said first to be found in, stript, and Cloaths taken away, and Body and Rooms washt from the Blood, to prevent the notoriety of the fact upon view; and as sayed, by the new Coroners contrivance or consent, (which makes it the more hainous and suspitious) for had it remained in the place, and posture it was said first to be found in, the print of the Bloody Foot upon the Stockings, the Cravat or Neck-cloath being cut into four pieces in the middle; and the contrary witnesses, who speak both as to place and posture, would have clearly discovered the Murder. The Notched Razor and Cut Hand, being most pregnant Circumstances, yet little regarded.

4. That the Jury excepted against the removing of the Body from the

posture

posture and place, and demanded a view of the Cloaths which *William Fisher* did by name, yet was denyed the same by the Coroner, after he had been in the next Room, with some of the Conspirators, who had call'd him out upon that *Demand*, and who upon his return to the Jury again did declare to them (as ignorantly as wickedly) that they were to sit upon the Body, not the Clothes.

5. The partial Examination of Witnesses, that tho there were several in and about the House when the Fact was done, yet only *Bomeny* and *Russel* who they might justly suspect to be privy to it, must be the principal Witnesses they'll examine in the Case, taking little notice of *Peck*, *Munden*, *Lloyd*, Captain *Hawley* himself, or the two Women.

6. The little regard had to the notorious contradictions in the Witnesses, they did, or might examine; *Bomeny* telling them the Razor was given him (wherewith he cut his Throat) the 12 of *July*, and *Russel* the 13; *Bomeny* that *Russel* broke open the Door, but *Russel* that he easily opened it with the Key on the outside; *Bomeny* that he could only through the chink of the Door, see some Blood and some part of the Razor, but *Russel* that he could through the same chink see the whole Body; *Bomeny* and *Russel* that the whole Body lay in the Closet, and none of it to be seen in the Chamber, but *Peck* and others, that part of it lay in the Chamber; *Bomeny* and *Russel* that they were absent but a quarter of an hour from my Lord, but to others *Bomeny* owns he was absent from him two or three hours, in so much as he was cold and stiff before he saw him; some that he was found lying, others kneeling.

7. That they unduly suffered themselves to be hurried into a Verdict, by the Message brought them by Capt. *Hawley* in the K. Name, to hasten the same; as though the death of so great a man, and in that place too, deserved not a serious and due search, especially when they saw such foul play offered them, by removing Body and Cloaths, and denying a view of the Cloaths, and when none of the Relations present, and so few of the Witnesses Examin'd, and those in so much contradiction too.

8. By the unheard of drawing their Verdict, which was done not by the Coroner, nor by the Jury amongst themselves, as it ought to have been, but by one of the Conspirators themselves in the next Room, who sent it to them by *Bomeny*, and which they signed accordingly.

9. By giving so wicked and false a Verdict upon their Oaths, which was this, *viz. That the E. of* Essex *being the* 13 *of* July *alone in his Chamber, did with a Razor Voluntarily and Feloniously cut his Throat, giving unto himself one mortal Wound, cut from one Jugular to the other, and by the* Aspera Arteria, *and the Wind-Pipe, to the* Vertebræ *of the Neck, both the Jugulars being thoroughly divided, of which said Wound the Earl instantly died.*

This was the Conspirators Diabolical writing, which they imposed

upon

upon the Jury, and they made their Verdict both Coroner and Inquest by Subscribing it.

It falsly saith he was alone in the Chamber, whereas by the flinging out the Bloody Razor, as well as by sufficient Testimony, it will appear that several went up and came out at that time.

It also falsly saith he did give himself with that Razor one mortal wound of such a length, and such a depth, which are utter impossibilities, as before.

3. *From the Villanous ends the Contrivers had to effect and carry on hereby*, viz.

1. To confirm a Protestant Plot, a thing which they had long and often laboured, and as often been disappointed in, and which was so improved by the Attorney General, *as 1000 Witnesses to make it good*, as also by the *L. Ch. Justice, as the Finger of God, to convince all the World thereof*, the sad consequence whereof hath since been so severely felt.

2. Utterly to stifle the Popish Plot, witness the Bayling, the Popish Lords Impeached and committed by Parliament, out of the *Tower*, and the publick prints to ridicule the same ever since.

3. To destroy the L. *Russel*, and therefore done at the very instant he was to come to his Tryal, and so improved by the Lawyers to the Jury, which some of them have owned did more prevail with them to bring him in Guilty, than any other proof produced against him.

4. That they might remove out of the way so great a Champion of the Protestant Cause and Interest, who by his great Imployments and Trusts in this and the other Nation, had gained so perfect knowledge of their Popish horrid Intreagues, the way they have taken of old, both in this and other Nations; and whereof divers Instances might be given, besides that of Sir *E. B. Godfry*, whose wounds bleed afresh at the mentioning hereof.

5. That hereby they might carry on a Hellish design against the King himself, as tho he had been privy hereto, by not only Butchering him in that his Royal Prison and Palace (where by the Law he becomes pledg for the safety and forth-coming of the Prisoner) and at a time when he was there in Person, where he had not been for divers years before, and as tho he came purposely to order the doing thereof, and to Intitle the Government to it. Which the Lord Chief Justice doth so often Inculcate: If he was indeed then Murdered by others from the K. prefence there [in *Bradons* Tryal] As also by that their horrid Presumption in sending in the K. Name to hasten and hurry the Jury into that corrupt Verdict, and so daringly and contemptuously to remove the Body, contrary to the K. express Command by a Person of Quality.

4. *From the Methods which have been used to stifle the discovery hereof, and to deter men from inquiring into the matter.*

1. By the Lawyers and Judges, who have declared that, whoever went about

about to prove the E. of *E.* murdered, did no other than libel the Government, and bring the Guilt of the Blood upon it.

2. By the ſtrict Command given by the Officers of the Guards in the Tower, the day after the Murder, to all the Souldiers, not to ſpeak one word thereof at their Perils.

3. By the ſevere Proſecutions, and Perſecutions of thoſe who have appeared herein, both as to their Eſtates, Perſons, Lives and Liberties.

Witneſs the turning out of old *Edwards* from his place in the *Cuſtom-houſe*, wherein he had been 20 years, for only bidding his Son upon his Bleſſing ſpeak the truth in the Caſe; & the many ſeverities to Mr. *Braden* for declaring what others had ſaid about it; & the ſevere dealing with Mr. *Hugh Speed* for the ſame; as alſo that late cruel uſage of that poor Souldier in the Tower, becauſe he would not affirm the E. of *E.* murdered himſelf; who was firſt whipped with Cords till the Skin was all off. 2. After that Scourged with Rods. And 3. put upon the Wooden-horſe with 6 Muſquets at his Heels, Sword broken and cat-ſtaff. But eſpecially the Deſtruction of *Rob. Meek* the Centinel, for telling what he heard and ſaw that day of the bloody Tragedy; whoſe Neck was therefore broke, and hung into the *Tower-Ditch*; who declared before-hand to his friends, how his life was threatned for the ſame. As alſo *Hardy* the Warder, who was ſerved in like manner for blabbing; whoſe murdered Body was about a Month after it was miſſing, taken up near *Rocheſter*, where a great Popiſh Lord declared ſeveral days before he was found, that he had there drowned himſelf.

4. By the endeavours which have been uſed to prevent the Review, which by 2 Letters to 2 Noble Men, and the Letters to the Lady *E.* ſent openly by a Meſſenger to *Graman* the Bookſeller, which he brought to Juſtice *Benton*, and here to the Secretary; all of them purporting a diſcovery upon Indemnity and a Review, but all in vain.

4. By ſeizing *Lyſons* papers, the Author of that ill Pedigree may be granted as was offered in Sir *E. Baſkervile's* and Sir *Tho. O. Caſe*, and other; there will then be produced poſitive Evidence, which will declare who were the Contrivers and Authors, who the Aiders and Abettors of that Barbarous deteſtable Murder, deſcribe the Inſtruments with which it was done, and which was made on purpoſe for that end; The Rewards and preferments to the reſpective Actors therein, with all the material Circumſtances about it: Which Enquiry was ſucceſsfully made in Sir Tho. O's caſe, after the Coroners *Inqueſt* had found it (as ſaid) a natural Death. And by which after more then two years ſtifled by a high hand, the then Principal Miniſter of State and his Aſſociates, viz. the Lieutenant of the Tower, and others, were ſearcht into, found Guilty, and many of them Executed for that horrid Murder, committed upon that Innocent Gentleman in the Tower.

Thoſe

The Conclusion.

NOw may not this Dismal Tragical Account (which carries so much Demonstration in it) be well left without a Comment, or any Rhetorical strain of Wit, or flourish of Eloquence, either to convince or satisfy the Reader of the Truth hereof, or provoke him to the discharge of that duty incumbent upon him in his Place or Station (which so Barbarous and unheard of Murder calls for at his hand) the better to deliver himself and the Nation from the Crying Sin of Blood Guiltiness? And which is therefore left to the Consideration and Conscience of all that hear thereof in general; and to all the Ministers of Justice and his Fellow Peers in special, whose Oaths, Honours, and Interests, may Oblige them to their duties herein? And who in reason ought to feel the bleeding smart of this Bloody Stab, not knowing which of their own turns may be next. And to his Relations and Kindred in particular, who are more then others call'd forth in a peculiar manner, to make a further and better Inquisition after his Blood, then hath yet been made, especially after this full Discovery is offered to them, as they would vindicate his Innocency, wipe off the Stain of Felony, Murder and Treason, from the Noble Family; deliver themselves from the reproach of being brib'd by the forfeited Estate to hold their Tongues, and suffer others to be so severely handled as officious for appearing therein, under their silence: And as they would free themselves from the Guilt of his Blood, and answer the neglect to God and Man. Lastly to all those (of which there are many) who either as Accessaries or Actors, have imbrew'd their hands in this Innocent Blood; whether since they are secretly known, it will not be their wisest and best course (as some did in Sir *Tho. O*'s case) to come forth and confess, and give Glory to God, as they may hope for Mercy here, or hereafter; and not to think to shelter themselves under Gold and Greatness; which will be a covering (in this case) too short for the greatest themselves, because God who is the Avenger of Blood, and to whom vengeance belongs, will bring all to the House top, and recompence them according to their Deeds; There being *no Darkness nor Shadow of Death, where the Workers of Iniquity may hide themselves.*

FINIS.